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Part V Regional cooperation for development

Section 17
Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

(Programme 15 of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001)

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* The present document contains section 17 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999. The complete proposed programme budget will subsequently be issued in final printed form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/52/6/Rev.1).

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Section 17
Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific
(Programme 15 of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001)

Overview

17.1 ESCAP is responsible for the implementation of the programme. The activities are carried out at ESCAP headquarters in Bangkok and the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre located in Vanuatu.

17.2 The levels of development among the members and associate members of ESCAP are diverse, with its membership encompassing developed countries, newly industrialized economies, least developed, landlocked and island developing countries, and countries with economies in transition from centrally planned economies to market economies.

17.3 In order to meet the challenges of responding to the diverse needs of its members and associate members, the Commission will continue during the biennium 1998-1999 to focus on three major themes, namely: (a) the promotion of regional economic cooperation in such essential areas as trade, investment, building of technological capabilities, transport and infrastructure development; (b) environment and sustainable development that seeks to contain environmental degradation and emphasizes sound management of non-renewable resources; and (c) the promotion of the formulation and implementation of effective social policies, action plans and programmes aimed at alleviating poverty, enhancing the quality of life of all social groups and pursuing vigorous development of the region's human resources. The Commission will moreover continue to facilitate the sharing of experiences among countries through technical cooperation among developing countries and South-South cooperation and to maximize its role as a centre for policy research, analysis and information for the benefit of its members.

17.4 The ESCAP work programme in the biennium will accelerate at the regional level the follow-up to the declarations and programmes of action adopted by the recent global conferences to support national and subregional efforts. ESCAP will enhance its lead role in organizing meetings of heads of subregional organizations and in attaining a unified and effective United Nations system-wide approach to regional development through the Regional Inter-agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific and its subcommittees. Through the latter mechanisms, ESCAP will continue to reinforce inter-agency collaboration with a view to pooling resources in the United Nations system for the formulation and implementation of technical assistance programmes to benefit countries in the region.

17.5 In the biennium, emphasis will be placed in particular on improving the capacities of least developed, landlocked and island developing countries, as well as the countries with economies in transition, to be integrated more closely into the region's dynamic development and in international development in the economic and social fields.

17.6 The programme structure of ESCAP has been revised from six subprogrammes in the biennium 1996-1997 to 10 subprogrammes in the biennium 1998-1999, following the structure of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 (A/51/6/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1). This change will enhance accountability by ensuring that responsibility for the delivery of outputs and for achieving the results intended for the programme is clearly identified.

17.7 Other efforts will be made to reduce the frequency of issuance of many recurrent publications. Furthermore, the exchange and dissemination of information will increasingly be effected through electronic means rather than conventional publications in hard copy. Public information materials will be disseminated to create a greater awareness of the priority activities of ESCAP, all of which are geared to benefit its member countries.

17.8 The overall level of resources of $67,911,900 proposed for the biennium 1998-1999 reflects a growth of $424,600 (or 0.6 per cent). This growth represents the combined effect of the following: (a) the redeployment to this section of 3 posts (1 P-5, 1 P-3 and 1 Local level) and the non-post resources from UNCTAD to ESCAP for the UNCTAD/ESCAP Joint Unit on Transnational Corporations; (b) the delayed impact of the P-5 post established in the biennium 1996-1997; (c) the new standardized vacancy rates; (d) the proposed abolition of 50 posts (18 Professional, 30 Local level and 2 Field Service posts); and (e) increases and decreases under various objects of expenditures reflecting a shift in the use of resources which would enable a leaner ESCAP to carry out its mandated programme of work more efficiently.

17.9 The estimated percentage distribution of the total resources of ESCAP in 1998-1999 would be as follows:

		Regular budget	*Extra-budgetary*
		(percentage)	
A.	Policy-making organs	1.4	—
B.	Executive direction and management	2.5	0.2
C.	Programme of work	44.9	94.3
D.	Programme support	51.2	5.5
	Total	**100.0**	**100.0**

Table 17.1 Summary of requirements by component
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Component		*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
				Amount	*Percentage*			
A.	Policy-making organs	692.8	986.5	(40.5)	(4.1)	946.0	72.8	1 018.8
B.	Executive direction and management	1 865.5	1 737.6	(54.7)	(3.1)	1 682.9	127.8	1 810.7
C.	Programme of work	26 254.3	29 365.2	1 115.3	3.7	30 480.5	2 481.9	32 962.4
D.	Programme support	29 896.5	35 398.0	(595.5)	(1.6)	34 802.5	2 813.7	37 616.2
	Total	**58 709.1**	**67 487.3**	**424.6**	**0.6**	**67 911.9**	**5 496.2**	**73 408.1**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	1996-1997 estimates	Source of funds	1998-1999 estimates
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
2 264.4	1 912.7	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	1 783.3
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
4 742.3	2 609.6	UNDP	3 600.0
2 288.2	1 868.2	UNFPA	2 400.0
440.8	229.0	UNIFEM	534.0
19 516.5	21 348.4	Bilateral and other resources	23 036.5
Total	**29 252.2**	**27 967.9**	**31 353.8**
Total (1) and (2)	**87 961.3**	**95 455.2**	**104 761.9**

Table 17.2 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	1994-1995 expenditures	1996-1997 appropriations	Resource growth		Total before recosting	Recosting	1998-1999 estimates
			Amount	Percentage			
Posts	49 967.8	57 388.2	39.1	—	57 427.3	4 687.0	62 114.3
Other staff costs	688.9	974.6	367.9	37.7	1 342.5	104.2	1 446.7
Consultants and experts	394.3	496.2	40.3	8.1	536.5	41.0	577.5
Travel	1 055.8	1 124.9	151.9	13.5	1 276.8	98.4	1 375.2
Contractual services	386.9	571.0	(11.5)	(2.0)	559.5	43.1	602.6
General operating expenses	4 438.6	4 648.4	58.4	1.2	4 706.8	362.3	5 069.1
Hospitality	7.3	20.3	—	—	20.3	1.4	21.7
Supplies and materials	674.3	752.9	65.6	8.7	818.5	63.1	881.6
Furniture and equipment	1 095.2	1 510.8	(287.1)	(19.0)	1 223.7	95.7	1 319.4
Total	**58 709.1**	**67 487.3**	**424.6**	**0.6**	**67 911.9**	**5 496.2**	**73 408.1**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	1996-1997 estimates	Object of expenditure	1998-1999 estimates
4 413.2	4 245.8	Posts	3 382.5
393.5	350.0	Other staff costs	2 121.8
8 477.1	7 647.0	Consultants and experts	7 242.7
1 380.8	2 057.0	Travel	4 154.9
3 223.3	2 422.6	Contractual services	1 899.5
1 349.2	1 153.5	General operating expenses	1 230.3
223.1	259.0	Supplies and materials	459.4
274.0	363.0	Furniture and equipment	206.0
8 482.4	8 643.0	Grants and contributions	8 936.8
1 035.6	827.0	Other	1 719.9
Total	**29 252.2**	**27 967.9**	**31 353.8**
Total (1) and (2)	**87 961.3**	**95 455.2**	**104 761.9**

Table 17.3 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
USG	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
D-2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
D-1	12	11	—	—	—	—	12	11
P-5	27	28	—	—	14	14	41	42
P-4/3	115	101	—	—	15	13	130	114
P-2/1	31	29	—	—	—	—	31	29
Total	**187**	**171**	**—**	**—**	**29**	**27**	**216**	**198**
Other categories								
Local level	325	296	—	—	49	43	374	339
Field Service	3	1	—	—	—	—	3	1
Total	**328**	**297**	**—**	**—**	**49**	**43**	**377**	**340**
Grand total	**515**	**468**	**—**	**—**	**78**	**70**	**593**	**538**

A. Policy-making organs

Table 17.4 **Summary by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Other staff costs	219.4	433.6	(60.3)	(13.9)	373.3	28.8	402.1
Consultants and experts	—	47.8	(28.3)	(59.2)	19.5	1.4	20.9
Travel	360.6	371.3	85.3	22.9	456.6	35.1	491.7
Contractual services	61.1	96.1	(37.2)	(38.7)	58.9	4.7	63.6
General operating expenses	13.0	1.7	10.1	594.1	11.8	0.9	12.7
Hospitality	7.3	5.9	—	—	5.9	0.4	6.3
Supplies and materials	31.4	30.1	(10.1)	(33.5)	20.0	1.5	21.5
Total	**692.8**	**986.5**	**(40.5)**	**(4.1)**	**946.0**	**72.8**	**1 018.8**

17.10 The Commission, which has 51 member and 9 associate member countries and territories, provides overall direction to the work of the secretariat and reports to the Economic and Social Council. It holds regular annual sessions at the ministerial level. The intergovernmental structure subsidiary to the Commission comprises three thematic committees (the Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation, the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Development and the Committee on Socio-Economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas), two other committees (the Committee on Transport, Communications, Tourism and Infrastructure Development, and the Committee on Statistics), and two special bodies (the Special Body on Least Developed and Landlocked Developing Countries and the Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries). Subject to the approval of the Commission, ad hoc

ministerial conferences and ad hoc intergovernmental meetings may also be held during the biennium. In addition to the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, an Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and other Representatives Designated by the Commission meets each month to advise and assist the Executive Secretary in the exercise of his functions and to carry out liaison between the Commission and the secretariat. Meetings of the Commission, its committees and special bodies are normally held at the United Nations Conference Centre at Bangkok. If held at some other location at the invitation of a member Government, all additional costs are borne by the host country.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Other staff costs

17.11 An estimated amount of $373,300, reflecting a reduction of $60,300, is requested for temporary assistance for meetings, particularly for interpretation and translation required in connection with the annual Commission sessions and meetings of committees, intergovernmental and special bodies, and ad hoc ministerial conferences. The reduction is due to the reduced volume of documentation as mandated by the Commission, streamlined work methods, and improved processing equipment within the ESCAP Languages Services Section.

Consultants and experts

17.12 An estimated amount of $19,500, reflecting a reduction of $28,300, is requested to provide expertise in connection with the preparation of special thematic studies.

Travel

17.13 An estimated amount of $456,600, reflecting an increase of $85,300, is requested for the travel costs of conference-servicing staff from Geneva to service the Commission sessions and other meetings held under the auspices of ESCAP. The additional amount is due to the increased use of headquarters conference-servicing staff instead of retaining around the year permanent capacity for editing and translation as in the past.

Contractual services

17.14 An estimated amount of $58,900, reflecting a decrease of $37,200, is requested to provide for editing services during periods of peak workload, in particular for the Commission's pre-session documentation, all the documentation of the Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation, and the annual publication of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific* and to provide for printing costs of the special thematic studies mandated by the Commission.

General operating expenses

17.15 Based on actual requirements, an amount of $11,800 is requested for miscellaneous services associated with the annual Commission sessions.

Hospitality

17.16 Resources for official hospitality extended on behalf of the organization to delegations/participants to the annual Commission sessions is proposed to be maintained at $5,900.

Supplies and materials

17.17 An estimated amount of $20,000, reflecting a reduction of $10,100, is proposed for supplies and materials for holding the Commission sessions and other meetings.

B. Executive direction and management

Table 17.5 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	1 735.6	1 554.7	(38.8)	(2.4)	1 515.9	114.9	1 630.8
Consultants and experts	—	26.4	(26.4)	(100.0)	—	—	—
Travel	129.9	156.5	10.5	6.7	167.0	12.9	179.9
Total	**1 865.5**	**1 737.6**	**(54.7)**	**(3.1)**	**1 682.9**	**127.8**	**1 810.7**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
45.4	62.4	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	67.3
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
—	—	Bilateral sources	—
45.4	**62.4**	**Total**	**67.3**
1 910.9	**1 800.0**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**1 878.0**

Table 17.6 **Post requirements**

Programme: Executive direction and management

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
USG	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
D-2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-4/3	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total	**4**	**4**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**4**	**4**
Other categories								
Local level	7	6	—	—	1	1	8	7
Total	**7**	**6**	**—**	**—**	**1**	**1**	**8**	**7**
Grand total	**11**	**10**	**—**	**—**	**1**	**1**	**12**	**11**

17.18 The Office of the Executive Secretary provides overall direction, supervision and management of the secretariat and substantive and support services to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies. It promotes economic and social development and regional cooperation among the member and associate member countries of the Commission through the implementation of its legislative mandates and the approved programme of work.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

17.19 The estimated requirements of $1,515,900, reflecting a negative resource growth of $38,800, would provide for four Professional and higher level posts and six Local level posts as shown in table 17.6 above. It is proposed to redeploy one Local level post to subprogramme 6, Poverty alleviation: rural and urban development, to strengthen that area.

Consultants and experts

17.20 The amount of $26,400 previously allocated for consultants is proposed to be discontinued.

Travel

17.21 An estimated requirement of $167,000, reflecting an increase of $10,500, is proposed for travel of the Executive Secretary and his immediate staff to attend meetings within and outside the region, for consultations with Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, for coordination with other United Nations entities and to represent the Secretary-General, as required.

C. Programme of work

Table 17.7 **Summary of requirements by programme**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Subprogramme	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
1. Regional economic cooperation: trade and investment	3 119.7	3 215.0	687.7	21.3	3 902.7	314.7	4 217.4
2. Regional economic cooperation: research and policy analysis	2 843.8	2 712.5	(49.2)	(1.8)	2 663.3	215.6	2 878.9
3. Regional economic cooperation: industry and technology	2 304.1	2 797.2	(157.6)	(5.6)	2 639.6	214.4	2 854.0
4. Environment and sustainable development	5 580.2	6 218.8	(229.8)	(3.6)	5 989.0	489.3	6 478.3
5. Poverty alleviation: social development	1 954.4	2 208.4	144.2	6.5	2 352.6	192.9	2 545.5
6. Poverty alleviation: rural and urban development	2 266.2	2 852.8	188.0	6.5	3 040.8	249.4	3 290.2
7. Poverty alleviation: population and development	1 470.0	1 641.5	18.5	1.1	1 660.0	134.7	1 794.7
8. Transport and communications	3 581.9	4 069.9	0.7	—	4 070.6	332.2	4 402.8
9. Statistics	2 432.5	2 462.0	128.5	5.2	2 590.5	211.1	2 801.6
10. Least developed, landlocked and island developing countries	701.5	1 187.1	384.3	32.3	1 571.4	127.6	1 699.0
Total	**26 254.3**	**29 365.2**	**1 115.3**	**3.7**	**30 480.5**	**2 481.9**	**32 962.4**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
4 742.3	2 609.6	UNDP	3 600.0
2 288.2	1 868.2	UNFPA	2 400.0
440.8	229.0	UNIFEM	534.0
19 516.5	21 348.4	Bilateral and other resources	23 036.5
26 987.8	**26 055.2**	**Total**	**29 570.5**
53 242.1	**55 420.4**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**62 532.9**

Table 17.8 Post requirements

Programme of work

Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above							
D-1	10	9	—	—	—	—	10	9
P-5	19	20	—	—	13	13	32	33
P-4/3	71	61	—	—	13	11	84	72
P-2/1	21	20	—	—	—	—	21	20
Total	**121**	**110**	**—**	**—**	**26**	**24**	**147**	**134**
Other categories								
Local level	89	83	—	—	33	27	122	110
Total	**89**	**83**	**—**	**—**	**33**	**27**	**122**	**110**
Grand total	**210**	**193**	**—**	**—**	**59**	**51**	**269**	**244**

17.22 The estimated percentage distribution of resources among the subprogrammes would be as follows:

	Regular budget	*Extra-budgetary*
	(percentage)	
Subprogramme 1 Regional economic cooperation: trade and investment	12.8	14.9
Subprogramme 2 Regional economic cooperation: research and policy analysis	8.7	3.2
Subprogramme 3 Regional economic cooperation: industry and technology	8.6	4.8
Subprogramme 4 Environment and sustainable development	19.7	21.9
Subprogramme 5 Poverty alleviation: social development	7.7	11.8
Subprogramme 6 Poverty alleviation: rural and urban development	10.0	10.3
Subprogramme 7 Poverty alleviation: population and development	5.4	7.0
Subprogramme 8 Transport and communications	13.4	15.8
Subprogramme 9 Statistics	8.5	7.7
Subprogramme 10 Least developed, landlocked and island developing countries	5.2	2.6
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**

Subprogramme 1
Regional economic cooperation: trade and investment

Table 17.9 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	3 038.8	3 148.3	508.6	16.1	3 656.9	295.6	3 952.5
Consultants and experts	37.9	24.3	112.3	462.1	136.6	10.6	147.2
Travel	36.9	34.3	69.1	201.4	103.4	8.0	111.4
Contractual services	6.1	8.1	(2.3)	(28.3)	5.8	0.5	6.3
Total	**3 119.7**	**3 215.0**	**687.7**	**21.3**	**3 902.7**	**314.7**	**4 217.4**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
1 091.1	375.0	UNDP	1 200.0
2 195.1	2 922.0	Bilateral and other resources	3 212.3
3 286.2	**3 297.0**	**Total**	**4 412.3**
6 405.9	**6 512.0**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**8 629.7**

Table 17.10 **Post requirements**

Programme: Regional economic cooperation: trade and investment

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	2	3	—	—	3	3	5	6
P-4/3	9	8	—	—	1	1	10	9
P-2/1	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
Total	**14**	**14**	**—**	**—**	**4**	**4**	**18**	**18**
Other categories								
Local level	10	11	—	—	4	4	14	15
Total	**10**	**11**	**—**	**—**	**4**	**4**	**14**	**15**
Grand total	**24**	**25**	**—**	**—**	**8**	**8**	**32**	**33**

17.23 The work under this subprogramme will be carried out by the International Trade and Economic Cooperation Division under the guidance of the Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation.

17.24 The focus of work will be to implement the Action Programme for Regional Economic Cooperation in Trade and Investment. Policy analyses will be carried out with the view to addressing the emerging challenges and opportunities in the region in the light of regional and global developments. Exchange of experiences and best practices will be facilitated through dissemination of research and extension of technical assistance and advisory services. Emphasis will continue to be placed on issues arising from the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements and their implications for the region. There will also be special focus on the promotion of regional cooperation for enhancing trade efficiency and electronic commerce, as well as promotion of exports of developing countries with particular attention to the areas of commodities, textiles and exports of small and medium-sized enterprises and in this context, special emphasis will be devoted to the needs of the least developed, landlocked and island developing countries and the disadvantaged countries with economies in transition. More specifically, activities will aim at assisting the least developed countries in harmonizing their trade liberalization commitments with their national priorities and realizing the full potential of their exports in areas where they have comparative advantage; the Pacific island developing countries in diversifying their trade and economic links; and the disadvantaged countries with economies in transition, in particular those countries that are members of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), to renew their intra-trade relations and their economic integration into the region. The proposed activities are also aimed at enhancing institutional capacity-building and strengthening networks of institutions which support trade and investment flows. In addition, activities will be undertaken to promote private capital flows for trade related investment including through the development of capital markets. Cooperation between countries will be encouraged to promote capital market development in the developing countries of the region, which would include those with economies in transition. Activities will also address the need for strengthening regional information services for trade and investment as well as promotion of intraregional and interregional cooperation aimed at expansion of trade and investment flows.

Activities

17.25 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings. Twelve plenary and 4 committee sessions of the Commission; 6 plenary meetings of the Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation and 12 plenary meetings of its Steering Group; 8 plenary meetings of the Consultative Meeting among the Executive Heads of Subregional Organizations and ESCAP; and 12 plenary meetings of the Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation

a. Commission. One report of the Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation, one report of its Steering Group and two reports on issues related to trade and investment;

b. Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation. One report on issues related to trade and investment and one report of its Steering Group;

c. Steering Group of the Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation. Two reports on issues related to trade and investment;

d. Consultative Meeting among the Executive Heads of Subregional Organizations and ESCAP. Two reports on issues related to promotion of inter-subregional cooperation;

e. Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement. Two reports on developments in trade and investment in the Asian and Pacific region;

(iii) Three expert group meetings on institutional issues for trade facilitation and electronic commerce; regional trade and investment information networking; and commodity-related issues;

(b) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*

(i) Recurrent publications. Twenty-four issues of *TISNET Trade and Investment Information Bulletin*; *Directory of Trade and Investment Related Organizations of Developing Countries in Asia and the Pacific*, ninth edition; two issues of *Trade Review of the Bangkok Agreement*;

(ii) Non-recurrent publications. Six issues of traders' manuals and guidebooks for Asia and the Pacific; and 11 monograph series on studies in trade and investment;

(iii) Electronic, audio and video issuances. ESCAP Homepage on Trade Facilitation Information Exchange (TraFIX) on the World Wide Web;

(iv) Information kits. Information materials on trade policy and trade promotion issues and on the Asia-Pacific International Trade Fair (ASPAT), 1998 and 1999;

(v) Technical material. Two training materials on electronic commerce issues focused on small business enterprises for facilitating international trade in the region; technical information in response to requests from the public sector, the private sector and non-governmental organizations; and one set of training materials on the Asia Pacific Information Exchange;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison (RB/XB)*. Collaboration with intergovernmental organizations, including WTO, the Asian Clearing Union (ACU), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Asian Reinsurance Corporation (ARC), ASEAN, the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), the Forum Secretariat, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and SPC, as well as non-governmental organizations; annual organization and servicing of the Subcommittee on Trade and Investment of the Regional Inter-agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific; collaboration with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, including FAO, IBRD, IFC, IMF, ITC, UNCTAD, UNDP and UNIDO on matters related to trade and investment; collaboration with regional commissions in the areas of trade and investment, developing interregional linkages and promoting information exchange and cooperation; technical and substantive support to the ESCAP network on trade facilitation bodies; and technical and substantive support to regional commodity arrangements;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services. Two advisory missions on strengthening trade and investment information networking: infrastructure and management; and 18 advisory missions for promoting investment opportunities, in particular through capital market development;

(ii) Group training (seminars, workshops and symposia). Seven regional seminars/workshops/symposia on challenges arising from the Uruguay Round agreements, including assistance for accession of non-WTO members; six regional seminars on the promotion of exports of developing countries with emphasis on least developed, landlocked and island developing countries, and on countries with economies in transition; one regional seminar on the promotion of commodity trade through the use of market based mechanisms; four regional workshops on the strengthening of trade and investment information infrastructure and management; two regional/national workshops on the enhancement of regional cooperation in trade facilitation and electronic commerce; three regional seminars on promotion of economic cooperation among developing countries/technical cooperation among developing countries and tripartite cooperation in trade and investment; one regional workshop on the development of stock markets; three seminars on strengthening of intra-subregional cooperation and inter-subregional linkages in trade and investment; three regional seminars/workshops on enhancing international competitiveness of export-oriented small and medium-sized enterprises through promotion of sustainable development policies; interregional seminar on promotion of economic cooperation among the littoral states of the Bay of Bengal in the context of wider cooperation in the Indian Ocean Basin; one regional seminar on market access issues in the context of special trading arrangements and WTO; six workshops on enhancing national institutional capacity and regional networks supporting trade and investment flows; and two seminars/symposia on the promotion

of interregional cooperation on issues concerning regional and global trading and investment environment.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

17.26 Staff costs in the amount of $3,656,900 relate to 14 Professional and higher level posts and 11 Local level posts as shown in table 17.10 above. These staffing requirements reflect the redeployment to this subprogramme of two Professional (one P-5 and one P-3) and one Local level posts from UNCTAD (section 11A) and the proposed abolition of two Professional posts (one P-4 and one P-3; the P-3 post is proposed to be abolished effective 1 January 1999). These posts are not required for fulfilment of the programme of work as a result of the use of improved methods of work. The resource growth of $508,600 represents the combined effect of the redeployment and abolition of posts and the application of new standardized vacancy rates.

Consultants and experts

17.27 An estimated provision of $136,600 is proposed as follows: (a) $98,700 for specialized consultancy services not available in the secretariat for the preparation of the documentation and electronic issuance on: regional economic cooperation; Bangkok Agreement; promotion of inter-subregional cooperation; institutional issues for trade facilitation and electronic commerce; commodity-related issues; ESCAP Trade Facilitation Information (TraFIX) on the World Wide Web; and the promotion of investment opportunities, in particular through the development of capital markets; and (b) $37,900 for three expert group meetings on institutional issues for trade facilitation and electronic commerce; regional trade and investment information networking; and commodity-related issues as reflected in paragraph 17.25 (a) (iii) above. The growth of $112,300 results from the redeployment of the resources for consultants for the UNCTAD/ESCAP Joint Unit on Transnational Corporations ($58,700) and the increased requirements for specialized expertise not available in-house ($29,700) and the expert group meetings ($23,900).

Travel

17.28 A total amount of $103,400 is requested for (a) travel of staff for consultations on issues related to the programme of work, to attend meetings of the relevant bodies of the United Nations and other organizations related to trade and investment, including representation at meetings of WTO, ITC, UNCTAD and ECE; (b) for travel of staff to service the annual Consultative Meetings among the Executive Heads of Subregional Organizations and ESCAP and meetings of regional commodity bodies; and (c) for advisory services on promoting investment opportunities in particular through capital market development. The growth of $69,100 includes $46,700 redeployed from the UNCTAD/ESCAP Joint Unit and $22,400 to meet increased activity levels.

Contractual services

17.29 An estimated amount of $5,800 is proposed for printing of the *Directory of Trade and Investment Related Organizations of Developing Countries in Asia and the Pacific*, ninth edition.

Subprogramme 2
Regional economic cooperation: research and policy analysis

Table 17.11 Summary by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	2 683.9	2 534.6	(56.2)	(2.2)	2 478.4	201.5	2 679.9
Other staff costs	—	—	18.1	—	18.1	1.5	19.6
Consultants and experts	64.6	59.8	(3.0)	(5.0)	56.8	4.3	61.1
Travel	45.5	55.8	(4.4)	(7.8)	51.4	3.9	55.3
Contractual services	49.8	62.3	(3.7)	(5.9)	58.6	4.4	63.0
Total	**2 843.8**	**2 712.5**	**(49.2)**	**(1.8)**	**2 663.3**	**215.6**	**2 878.9**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
709.5	1 044.8	Bilateral and other resources	943.9
709.5	**1 044.8**		**943.9**
3 553.3	**3 757.3**		**3 822.8**

Table 17.12 Post requirements

Programme: Regional economic cooperation: research and policy analysis

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
P-4/3	5	4	—	—	—	—	5	4
P-2/1	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	1
Total	**10**	**8**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**10**	**8**
Other categories								
Local level	10	9	—	—	1	1	11	10
Total	**10**	**9**	**—**	**—**	**1**	**1**	**11**	**10**
Grand total	**20**	**17**	**—**	**—**	**1**	**1**	**21**	**18**

17.30 The work under the subprogramme will be carried out by the Development Research and Policy Analysis Division under the guidance of the Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation, the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Development and the Committee on Socio-Economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas.

17.31 The main objectives of the subprogramme are to increase the understanding of the economic and social development situation in the region and to contribute to the awareness and understanding on the part of national policy makers of the constraints to sustained economic growth, poverty alleviation and the integration of environmental concerns into macroeconomic decision- and policy-making processes. Special attention will be paid to the problems of integrating the countries with economies in transition into the region's economic mainstream.

17.32 Documentation and substantive services will be provided to the Commission and to the three committees mentioned above. Research and analysis will be carried out and technical assistance will be formulated and implemented with the aim of translating into action the strong desires of the countries of the region to cooperate among themselves to share experiences in practices and policies to tackle common issues.

Activities

17.33 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings. Twelve plenary and 4 committee sessions of the Commission; 2 plenary meetings of the Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation; 2 plenary meetings of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Development; 2 plenary meetings of the Committee on Socio-Economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation

a. Commission. Two reports on current economic situation and policy issues;

b. Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation. Report on macroeconomic developments, issues and policies;

c. Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Development. Report on integrating environmental considerations into economic decision-making;

d. Committee on Socio-Economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas. Report on economic growth, income distribution and poverty;

(iii) Expert group meetings. Two expert group meetings on development issues and policies;

(b) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*

(i) Recurrent publications. Two issues of *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*; *Asia-Pacific Development Journal* (biannual); and *Development Papers* (annual);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications. Integrating environmental considerations into economic decision-making; economic governance; macroeconomic dimensions of enhancing collaboration and cooperation among the developing countries of the region, with special reference to countries with economies in transition; and economic growth, income distribution and poverty;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison (RB/XB)*. Collaboration with UNCTAD, the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis, the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank on development issues and policies; and collaboration and liaison with inter-agency committees and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the region working on economic development issues, strategies and policies and on integrating environmental considerations into economic decision-making;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services. Two advisory missions on modelling and simulation of macroeconomic models, macroeconomic reforms and policy management in the countries with economies in transition, and on integrating environmental considerations into economic decision-making;

(ii) Group training (seminars, workshops and symposia). Three seminars on economic governance; integrating environmental considerations into economic decision-making; and economic growth, income distribution and poverty. Workshop on macroeconomic dimensions of enhancing collaboration and cooperation among the countries with economies in transition.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

17.34 An estimated amount of $2,478,400 would provide for eight Professional and higher level posts and nine Local level posts as shown in table 17.12 above. The staffing requirements to undertake the programme of work outlined in paragraph 17.33 above reflect the outward redeployment of one P-2 post to subprogramme 10, Least developed, landlocked and island developing countries, and the proposed abolition effective 1 January 1999 of one P-3 post and one Local level post. The reduction of $56,200 reflects the combined effect of the abolition and redeployment of posts and the application of new standardized vacancy rates.

Other staff costs

17.35 An estimated amount of $18,100 is requested for flexible provision of some clerical support functions.

Consultants and experts

17.36 An estimated amount of $56,800 reflecting a reduction of $3,000 is requested as follows: (a) $39,100 for consultancy services for the preparation of background country papers and analyses on specialized topics for the annual *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific* as reflected in paragraph 17.33 (b) (i) above; and (b) $17,700 for two ad hoc expert group meetings on development issues and policies as reflected in paragraph 17.33 (a) (iii) above.

Travel

17.37 A provision of $51,400 reflecting a reduction of $4,400 is proposed for travel of staff to attend meetings of the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, such as the Committee on Development Planning; consultations with the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis; and for travel of staff to collect country data and information, and to conduct consultations with authorities in countries of the region on development issues and policies and with other organizations.

Contractual services

17.38 An estimated amount of $58,600 reflecting a reduction of $3,700 is requested for printing the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*, the *Asia-Pacific Development Journal* and the *Development Papers*.

Subprogramme 3
Regional economic cooperation: industry and technology

Table 17.13 Summary by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	2 224.0	2 668.7	(145.5)	(5.4)	2 523.2	205.5	2 728.7
Consultants and experts	37.8	67.8	(1.3)	(1.9)	66.5	5.1	71.6
Travel	38.5	44.7	(10.4)	(23.2)	34.3	2.6	36.9
Contractual services	3.8	16.0	(0.4)	(2.5)	15.6	1.2	16.8
Total	**2 304.1**	**2 797.2**	**(157.6)**	**(5.6)**	**2 639.6**	**214.4**	**2 854.0**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
1 599.8	1 883.2	Bilateral and other resources	1 434.4
1 599.8	**1 883.2**		**1 434.4**
3 903.9	**4 680.4**		**4 288.4**

Table 17.14 Post requirements

Programme: Regional economic cooperation: industry and technology

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	1	1	—	—	3	3	4	4
P-4/3	7	6	—	—	—	—	7	6
P-2/1	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	1
Total	**11**	**9**	**—**	**—**	**3**	**3**	**14**	**12**
Other categories								
Local level	9	9	—	—	1	1	10	10
Total	**9**	**9**	**—**	**—**	**1**	**1**	**10**	**10**
Grand total	**20**	**18**	**—**	**—**	**4**	**4**	**24**	**22**

17.39 The work under this subprogramme will be carried out by the Industry and Technology Division under the guidance of the Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation.

17.40 The focus of work under this subprogramme will be to assist countries in the region in policy formulation to accelerate industrial and technological development. Assistance will be rendered to strengthen national capabilities in areas such as capital flows, especially for small and medium-sized enterprises, involvement of women in manufacturing, building up of industrial and technological infrastructure and access to new and emerging technologies. Furthermore, the enhanced participation of the private sector will be encouraged in the development of human resources, focusing on industrial and technological skills creation and upgrading, domestic and foreign direct investment, and policy formulation and review. Assistance will be provided to strengthen the capacity of national institutions in activities related to technology choice, transfer, adaptation and utilization through favourable policy framework and institutional mechanisms. The utilization and development of environmentally sound technologies in industries will be promoted. The activities are also aimed at assisting the least developed, landlocked and island developing countries as well as countries with disadvantaged economies in transition in strengthening their national capabilities to design appropriate policy measures and technical assistance programmes for industrial and technological development in order to bring them into the mainstream of the regional economic development.

Activities

17.41 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings. Twelve plenary and four committee sessions of the Commission; 6 plenary meetings of the Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation; and 12 plenary meetings of its Steering Group;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation

a. Commission. Two reports on issues related to industry and technology;

b. Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation. Report on issues related to industry and technology;

c. Steering Group of the Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation. Two reports on issues related to industry and technology;

(iii) Ad hoc expert group meetings. Two ad hoc expert group meetings on industrial complementarities and tripartite cooperation and on development and utilization of science and technology indicators in developing countries of the ESCAP region;

(b) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*

(i) Recurrent publications. Two issues each of *Industrial and Technological Development News for Asia and the Pacific* and *Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*;

(ii) Non-recurrent publications. New technologies on increased competitiveness of manufacturing industries for small and medium-sized enterprises; study on the utilization and development of selected environmentally sound technologies by small and medium-sized enterprises; promoting regional cooperation in utilizing industrial complementarities through tripartite cooperation; issues and perspectives on opportunities and challenges in industrial development and restructuring; cooperative measures for private sector development, privatization and the enhancement of entrepreneurial capability building; study on the implementation of ISO 14000 Standards; small and medium scale industries as vehicles for sustaining international competitiveness; new approaches in promoting the sustained participation of women in industrial development; promoting interregional and intraregional industrial investment flows; impact of regional and global agreements on technological development and technology transfer; study on emerging issues on technological capabilities with focus on globalization of the world economy; study on strengthening the role of small and medium-sized enterprises on alleviating rural poverty; skills development requirements for industrial and technological competitiveness;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison (RB/XB)*. Collaboration with United Nations organizations, in particular UNCTAD, WTO, UNIDO, ILO, etc.; organization and servicing of the Regional Inter-agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee on Industry and Technology; and technical and substantive support to the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services. Two advisory missions each on policy formulation for the promotion of technology transfer and technology capability building; enhancement of industrial and technological skills; the transfer of environmentally sound technologies; utilizing emerging industrial complementarities; promotion of intraregional and interregional private capital and investment flows for industrial development; and the development of competitive small and medium-sized enterprises;

(ii) Group training (seminars, workshops and symposia)

a. Three regional/subregional workshops on new technologies on increased competitiveness of manufacturing industries for small and medium-sized enterprises and on the transfer of environmentally sound technologies;

b. Two workshops on regional cooperation for the sustained participation of women in manufacturing industries and on regional cooperation in private sector development and privatization in industry;

c. National workshop in promoting foreign direct industrial investment;

d. New approaches in promoting industrial complementarities and devising tripartite cooperation schemes;

e. Meeting of the Network of Boards of Investment and Chambers for promoting industrial development and relocation;

f. Two training workshops on the preparation, appraisal and evaluation of industrial investment projects for the countries with economies in transition, and in the least developed and landlocked countries;

g. Regional cooperation for the adoption of ISO 14000 Standards;

h. Two workshops on the implications of regional and global agreements on technological development and technology transfer and on strengthening national capabilities in areas of technology transfer and management, consultancy services and standard, meteorology and quality control;

i. Meeting on technology cooperation for the development of selected industries, particularly agro- and allied industries;

j. Regional/subregional workshop on strengthening the role of small and medium-sized enterprises to alleviate rural poverty in a liberalized economic environment;

k. Meeting of the Regional Forum for Promoting Policy Dialogue in Industrial Development and Restructuring.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

17.42 Estimated requirements of $2,523,200 would provide for nine Professional and higher level posts and nine Local level posts as shown in table 17.14 above. The staffing requirements to undertake the programme of work outlined above in paragraph 17.41 reflect the abolition of one P-4 and one P-2 posts; while the P-4 post would be proposed for abolition effective 1 January 1998, it is proposed to abolish the P-2 post effective 1 January 1999. The reduction of $145,500 represents the combined effect of the abolition of these posts and the application of new standardized vacancy rates.

Consultants and experts

17.43 A provision of $66,500 is requested as follows: (a) $34,200 for specialized consultancy services not available in the secretariat for the preparation of the following studies and other materials: new technologies on increased competitiveness of manufacturing industries for small and medium-sized enterprises; promoting regional cooperation in utilizing industrial complementarities through tripartite cooperation; new approaches in promoting the sustained participation of women in industrial development; cooperative measures for private sector development, privatization and the enhancement of entrepreneurial capability building; study on the implementation of ISO 14000 Standards; and impact of regional and global agreements on technological development and technology transfer; and (b) $32,300 for two ad hoc expert group meetings on industrial complementarities and tripartite cooperation and on development and utilization of science and technology indicators in developing countries of the ESCAP region.

Travel

17.44 An estimated provision of $34,300 is requested for travel of staff to attend the fourth session of the Commission on Science and Technology (1999), to provide advisory services, consult Governments and national institutions on science and technology and to collect data and information on utilization and development of selected environmentally sound technologies by small and medium-sized enterprises; promoting regional cooperation in utilizing industrial complementarities through tripartite cooperation; implementation of ISO 14000 Standards; skills development requirements for industrial and technological competitiveness; and policy formulation for the promotion of technology transfer and technology capability building. The reduction of $10,400 reflects actual requirements.

Contractual services

17.45 A provision of $15,600 is requested for printing the publications entitled *Industrial and Technological Development News for Asia and the Pacific* and *Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*.

Subprogramme 4
Environment and sustainable development

Table 17.15 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	5 370.0	5 963.5	(256.1)	(4.2)	5 707.4	467.1	6 174.5
Other staff costs	—	—	36.2	—	36.2	3.0	39.2
Consultants and experts	65.3	86.5	11.6	13.4	98.1	7.7	105.8
Travel	64.1	98.2	(18.7)	(19.0)	79.5	6.2	85.7
Contractual services	80.8	70.6	(2.8)	(3.9)	67.8	5.3	73.1
Total	**5 580.2**	**6 218.8**	**(229.8)**	**(3.6)**	**5 989.0**	**489.3**	**6 478.3**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
2 568.8	1 634.6	UNDP	1 200.0
3 195.9	3 347.2	Bilateral and other resources	5 277.1
5 764.7	**4 981.8**	**Total**	**6 477.1**
11 344.9	**11 200.6**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**12 955.4**

Table 17.16 **Post requirements**

Programme: Environment and sustainable development

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	5	4	—	—	1	1	6	5
P-4/3	15	13	—	—	2	2	17	15
P-2/1	5	5	—	—	—	—	5	5
Total	**26**	**23**	**—**	**—**	**3**	**3**	**29**	**26**
Other categories								
Local level	16	14	—	—	7	7	23	21
Total	**16**	**14**	**—**	**—**	**7**	**7**	**23**	**21**
Grand total	**42**	**37**	**—**	**—**	**10**	**10**	**52**	**47**

17.46 The work under the subprogramme will be carried out by the Environment and Natural Resources Management Division under the guidance of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Development. The main objective of the subprogramme is to strengthen national capabilities in achieving environmentally sound and sustainable development, focusing on the integration of environment and development policy and sustainable development and management of natural resources.

17.47 Implementation, review and monitoring of the Regional Action Programme for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development, 1996-2000 and the recommendations of Agenda 21, together with the outcome of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, will form the main activities under the environment programme of work. Review of the implementation of relevant international conventions at the regional level, strengthening regional and subregional cooperation and identification of emerging environmental issues will be major areas of activity. Emphasis will be placed on addressing current and emerging issues related to the environment, energy resource options, including rural energy supply, power system planning and management and energy efficiency and conservation. Activities will include analytical and issue-oriented research studies, advisory services and group training. Activities in the mineral resources sector will focus on strengthening the formulation of policies and strategies in the sustainable development of land and mineral resources, including promotion of investment, application of geological aspects in land use and urban planning, and integrated marine policies and assessment and development of non-living marine resources. Activities in the area of water resources will focus on integrated water resources development and management, protection of water resources and water quality and water-related natural disaster reduction in line with the programme of action for sustainable development elaborated in Agenda 21. Activities of space applications will aim at achieving an effective action-oriented regional approach for the implementation of the Beijing Declaration on Space Technology Applications for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, the Strategy for Regional Cooperation in Space Applications, the Action Plan on Space Applications and the Regional Space Applications Programme for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, emphasizing technology applications to meet the challenges of natural resources and environment management, natural disaster monitoring and sustainable development planning towards the twenty-first century.

17.48 Preparations will be undertaken during the biennium for the second Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific to be held in 1999, for the 2000 Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development and for the publication *2000 State of the Environment in Asia and the Pacific*.

Activities

17.49 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings. Twelve plenary and 4 committee sessions of the Commission; 12 plenary meetings of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Development; 12 plenary meetings of the Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific; and 8 plenary meetings of the Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation

a. Commission. One report on implementation of the recommendations of the 1995 Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development and on the outcome of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly; one report on preparations for the Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific; one report of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Development; and two reports on issues related to environment and sustainable development of natural resources;

b. Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Development. One report on preparations for the Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific; one report on preparations for the fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development; and six reports on issues related to environment and sustainable development of natural resources;

c. Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific. Four reports on emerging issues, policy framework and new regional action plan for space technology applications for sustainable development;

(iii) Ad hoc expert group meetings. Three ad hoc expert group meetings on commercialization of renewable energy technologies and their technology transfer; policies and strategies in the sustainable development of land and mineral resources; and integration of water resources management in economic and social development plans. One high-level expert group meeting in preparation for the Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific;

(b) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*

(i) Recurrent publications. ESCAP/UNEP *Asia-Pacific Environment Newsletter* (8); ESCAP *Energy News* (4); *Energy Resources Development Series*; *Electric Power in Asia and the Pacific, 1995-1996*; *Atlas of Mineral Resources of the ESCAP Region* (2); *Mineral Concentrations and Hydrocarbon Accumulations in the ESCAP region*; *Mineral Resources Assessment, Development and Management* (2); *Urban and Environmental Geology Series* (2); *Water Resources Journal* (8); *Confluence* (4); *Water Resources Series* (2); *Space Technology Applications Newsletter* (8); and *Asia-Pacific Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems Journal* (4);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications. Implementation of the Regional Action Programme on Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development, 1996-2000, and the outcome of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly; trade and environment; regional review of the status of implementation of relevant international environmental conventions; study on environmental pollution and national and international standards; compendium of energy conservation legislation in the Asian and Pacific region; guidelines for promotion of energy efficiency in the countries with economies in transition; development and management of

non-living resources in the coastal zones of the Asia-Pacific region (2); Assessment of water resources and water demand by user sectors; space technology and applications for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific: a compendium (second edition); environment and natural resources management using remote sensing and geographic information systems (2); space technology applications for sustainable development (2); advanced earth observation satellite technology applications for environment monitoring and natural resources management; study on harmonization of various initiatives for promoting regional cooperation on space applications for sustainable development; and spatial information infrastructure and information networking applications, including distance education;

(iii) Electronic, audio and video issuances. ESCAP homepage on energy resources on the World Wide Web;

(iv) Exhibits. Two exhibits for World Water Day, two for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction Day and one on Space 2000;

(v) Booklets, pamphlets. Pamphlets for World Water Day and for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction Day;

(vi) Technical material for outside users (databases, software, etc.). Maintenance and update of the ESCAP Regional Information Service on Space Applications;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison (RB/XB)*

(i) Cooperation and collaboration on issues falling under the subprogramme, such as implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcome of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly, sustainable development of natural resources and energy, space technology applications, international conventions related to desertification control, climate change and biodiversity, follow-up to international conventions on environment with the following relevant United Nations organizations and bodies, and other global and/or regional intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and bodies: the Department for Policy Coordination on Sustainable Development, the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development; the Commission on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development; the Committee on Natural Resources and the Administrative Committee on Coordination Subcommittee on Water Resources; the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction secretariat; UNDP, the Office of Outer Space Affairs and the Inter-Agency Coordination Committee on Space Affairs, ADB, ASEAN, ECO, the Asia and Pacific Development Centre, the Coordinating Committee for Coastal and Offshore Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia, the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission, the Indian Ocean Marine Affairs Cooperation, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Western Pacific, the Mekong River Commission, the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites, non-governmental organizations, including the Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements, and the private sector;

(ii) Technical and substantive support to the Typhoon Committee, to the Panel on Tropical Cyclones, and to the Regional Inter-Agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee on Environment and Sustainable Development, Subcommittee on Water and Subcommittee on Space Applications for Sustainable Development;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services. Advisory missions as follows: four on the implementation of the Regional Action Programme on Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development, 1996-2000; three on strengthening the capacity for environmental management; six on energy resource options, energy environment planning, power system and energy efficiency; three on mineral resources assessment, mineral resources economics and legislation; three on environmental geology for planning and management of land resources; five on water resources development and management and on water-related natural disaster reduction; one on space technology

development and applications for environment and sustainable development; two on strengthening national capabilities for integrated applications of spatial information technology for environment and natural resources management;

(ii) Group training (seminars, workshops and symposia)

a. Two meetings on review and assessment of the Regional Action Programme on Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development, 1996-2000 and preparations for the Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia;

b. Workshops as follows: one on regional cooperation for implementation and awareness raising on relevant environmental conventions, including the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States; six on energy-environment planning, new and renewable sources of energy, power system and energy efficiency promotion; two on mineral resources assessment, mineral resources economics and legislation; two on environmental management of mineral resources development; two on environmental geology and geology for land use planning; one on development and management of non-living resources in the coastal zone of the Asia-Pacific region; eight on water resources development and management, protection of water resources and water quality, water and sustainable development and flood loss reduction;

c. Four subregional and national seminars on capacity-building for environmental management;

d. Technical cooperation among developing countries arrangements in the area of new and renewable sources of energy technology and energy efficiency promotion and on water resources development management;

e. Two training workshops on remote sensing and geographic information systems applications for land and sea resources management, including tropical ecosystem monitoring;

f. Eight meetings of regional working groups on various space applications sectors;

g. Two seminars/symposia on space applications in implementation of Beijing Declaration on Space Applications for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, Regional Strategy and Action Plan, and the Regional Space Applications Programme for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development;

(iii) Fellowships. Eight long-term fellowships on space technology applications (12-month duration); 25 medium-term fellowships on spatial informatics and applications, including remote sensing, geographic information systems and global positioning system) (3-month duration);

(iv) Field projects. Twenty pilot research/study projects on applications of advanced earth observation satellite data for environment and natural resources management.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

17.50 The amount of $5,707,400 would provide for 23 Professional and higher level posts and 14 Local level posts as shown in table 17.16 above. The staffing requirements reflect the outward redeployment of one P-5 post from this subprogramme to subprogramme 5, Poverty alleviation: social development, and the proposed abolition of two P-4 and two Local level posts (one P-4 and two Local level posts are proposed to be abolished effective 1 January 1999). The reduction of $256,100 represents the combined effect of the single redeployment and the abolition of four posts and the application of new standardized vacancy rates.

Other staff costs

17.51 A provision of $36,200 would be required for flexible provision of some clerical support functions.

Consultants and experts

17.52 The estimated proposed amount of $98,100 includes: (a) $50,000 for specialized consultancy services not available in the secretariat for preparation of the following studies and other materials: implementation of

the recommendations of the 1995 Ministerial Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development; preparations for the fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific; commercialization of renewable energy technologies and their technology transfer; integration of water resources management in economic and social development plans; working papers in preparation for the Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development; atlas of mineral resources; mineral concentration and hydrocarbon accumulations; mineral resources assessment, development and management; study on implementation of the Regional Action Programme on Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development, 1996-2000, and the outcome of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly; assessment of water resources and water demand by user sectors; ESCAP homepage on energy resources on the World Wide Web; and (b) $48,100 for the three expert group meetings outlined in paragraph 17.51 (a) (iii) above. The increase of $11,600 relates to the requirements for the ad hoc expert meetings.

Travel

17.53 A provision of $79,500 reflecting a decrease of $18,700 is requested for travel of staff: (a) to attend meetings of the relevant bodies of the United Nations and other organizations related to environment, management of natural resources and space technology applications. These include representation at the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Committee on Natural Resources, the Administrative Committee on Coordination Subcommittee on Water Resources, the Mekong River Commission, inter-agency coordination on space affairs, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites; (b) to provide advisory services and consult Governments and intergovernmental organizations on implementation of the Regional Action Programme on Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development, 1996-2000; commercialization of renewable energy technologies and their technology transfer; energy resource options and energy programmes; atlas of mineral resources of the ESCAP region; and mineral resources assessment, mineral resources economics and legislation; and (c) provide services to the Typhoon Committee and the Panel on Tropical Cyclones.

Contractual services

17.54 A provision of $67,800 is requested for external printing of nine publications.

Subprogramme 5
Poverty alleviation: social development

Table 17.17 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	1 853.2	2 097.6	90.4	4.3	2 188.0	180.5	2 368.5
Consultants and experts	45.7	62.3	(1.7)	(2.7)	60.6	4.4	65.0
Travel	44.8	37.8	42.5	112.4	80.3	6.2	86.5
Contractual services	10.7	10.7	13.0	121.4	23.7	1.8	25.5
Total	**1 954.4**	**2 208.4**	**144.2**	**6.5**	**2 352.6**	**192.9**	**2 545.5**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
1 939.3	2 353.6	Bilateral and other resources	3 495.0
1 939.3	**2 353.6**		**3 495.0**
3 893.7	**4 562.0**		**6 040.5**

Table 17.18 **Post requirements**

Programme: Poverty alleviation: social development

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	1	2	—	—	2	2	3	4
P-4/3	5	4	—	—	1	1	6	5
P-2/1	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
Total	**9**	**9**	**—**	**—**	**3**	**3**	**12**	**12**
Other categories								
Local level	5	5	—	—	2	2	7	7
Total	**5**	**5**	**—**	**—**	**2**	**2**	**7**	**7**
Grand total	**14**	**14**	**—**	**—**	**5**	**5**	**19**	**19**

17.55 The work under this subprogramme will be carried out by the Social Development Division under the guidance of the Committee on Socio-Economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas.

17.56 The focus of work under this subprogramme will be to assess and respond to regional trends and challenges in social policy and human resources development, with particular attention to the planning and delivery of social service and training programmes for the poor and other marginalized social groups, including youth, women, disabled persons and older persons. Activities will emphasize strengthening the capacity of the public and non-governmental sectors to develop and implement policies and programmes to enhance the productive and self-help capabilities of the above-mentioned groups as means of enhancing their quality of life. In undertaking this work, attention will be devoted to fostering partnerships between Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organization, and community and other participatory organizations. Priority will be given to activities in regional implementation of global mandates, including the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development and the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond. Activities will also be in pursuance of the following major regional mandates: Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region; Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region; and Agenda for Action for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002.

Activities

17.57 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings. Twelve plenary and 4 committee sessions of the Commission; 12 plenary meetings of the Committee on Socio-Economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas; eight plenary and eight working group meetings of the Asia-Pacific Meeting on Human Resources Development for Youth to Review the Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond; eight plenary meetings of the Senior Officials' Meeting on the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation

a. Commission. Report on the Fifth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Development; the implementation of Commission resolution 52/4 on promoting human resources development among youth in Asia and the Pacific; the implementation of Commission resolution 51/2 on strengthening regional cooperation in human resources development in Asia and the Pacific; issues related to social development; and the status of and prospects for social development: theme topic of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission;

b. Committee on Socio-Economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas. Two reports on issues related to social development;

c. Asia-Pacific Meeting on Human Resources Development for Youth to Review the Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond. Report on the regional implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond;

d. Senior Officials' Meeting on the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region. Three reports on issues related to the Agenda;

(iii) Ad hoc expert group meetings: one ad hoc expert group meeting on the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region;

(b) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*

(i) Recurrent publications. Four issues each of *ESCAP Human Resources Development Newsletter* and of *Social Development Newsletter*;

(ii) Non-recurrent publications. Regional networking among centres of excellence for human resources development; Youth participation indicators in Asia and the Pacific; human resources development training curriculum for social service personnel, for planning and management of literacy programmes for women, and for youth participation in development; human resources development training manual for development of post-literacy programmes for women; trainers' guidelines for self-help organizations of people with disabilities; illustrated report on promotion of non-handicapping environments; guidelines for the implementation of a regional plan of action concerning older persons; review of the status of sexually abused and exploited children and youth and their access to social, health and other human resources development services; Asia and the Pacific into the twenty-first century: status of and prospects for social development; social aspects of international labour migration in the ESCAP region; community-based prevention of juvenile delinquency; case studies on national policies and programmes for older persons; the role of the family in providing social protection; private sector collaboration in implementing the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region; approaches to targeting of poverty alleviation programmes; and conceptual framework for a regional social development data bank;

(iii) Electronic, audio and video issuances. ESCAP homepages on the World Wide Web on the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons in the Asia and Pacific Region, social policy and

human resources development; video tapes: two on programmes in support of the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region, two on the ESCAP human resources development award-winners, one on barrier-free environments for people with disabilities, and one on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002;

(iv) Exhibits. Two on the ESCAP human resources development award-winners and one on the implementation of the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region;

(v) Booklets, pamphlets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits. Two brochures on the ESCAP human resources development award; 4 information kits and booklets on the ESCAP human resources development award-winners; 25 fact sheets on national human resources development situations in Asia and the Pacific; information materials in connection with the Senior Officials' Meeting on the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region; and information materials to mark the International Year of Older Persons;

(vi) Technical material for outside users (databases, software, etc.). ESCAP databases on centres of excellence for human resources development and on the International Year of Older Persons;

(vii) Special events. Annual presentation ceremony for the ESCAP human resources development Award;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison (RB/XB)*

(i) Collaboration with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, including the Department for Policy Coordination on Sustainable Development, ILO, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, UNICEF, UNDP, WHO, UNESCO and UNFPA, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, including ADB, ASEAN, ECO, SAARC and SPC, the Commonwealth Youth Programme, the Asian Youth Council and the Pacific Youth Council on, as relevant, follow-up of the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region and the Programme of Action for the World Summit for Social Development; implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region; regional follow-up of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond; promoting literacy training for women; matters related to the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons in the Asia and Pacific Region; and the International Year of Older Persons;

(ii) Collaboration with national centres of excellence for human resources development in developing training materials for social service personnel;

(iii) Organization and servicing of the Regional Inter-agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee on Disability and the Subcommittee on HIV/AIDS;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services. Advisory missions as follows: six on implementation of the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region and regional follow-up of the Programme of Action for the World Summit for Social Development; four on the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region; four on the enhancement of youth skills and the promotion of youth participation in development; four on the design and implementation of national youth policy frameworks; four on the implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2001; and two on preparations for and observance of the International Year of Older Persons;

(ii) Group training (seminars, workshops and symposia)

a. Regional workshops on strengthening the role of the family in providing social protection and on a conceptual framework for a social development data bank;

b. Annual meetings: on major social issues and programmes; of the Jury for the ESCAP human resources development award; on critical human resources development issues;

c. Two subregional ESCAP human resources development courses for social service personnel from centres of excellence in South Asia and Indochina;

d. One subregional evaluation workshop for promoting human resources development for women in South Asia through post-literacy programme development and two workshops for promoting human resources development for women through literacy training in the Pacific and Indochina;

e. ESCAP human resources development course for social work personnel dealing with sexually abused and sexually exploited youth in the Greater Mekong subregion;

f. Four national ESCAP human resources development courses for social service personnel from centres of excellence and six courses for youth work personnel in transitional and least developed countries;

g. Four training workshops on enhancing self-help capabilities of disadvantaged groups;

h. Four regional seminars on emerging social issues related to disadvantaged groups;

i. Regional consultation on a draft regional plan of action concerning older persons in the ESCAP region;

(iii) Fellowships: Annual ESCAP human resources development award.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

17.58 The staffing resource requirements of $2,188,000, would provide for nine Professional and higher level posts and five Local level posts as shown in table 17.18. Those requirements reflect the proposed inward redeployment to the subprogramme of one P-5 post from subprogramme 4, Environment and sustainable development to serve as Chief of the Social Policy Section and the abolition of one P-4 post no longer required for the programme of work. The redeployment is aimed at strengthening the capacity of this subprogramme to undertake work in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development and the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region, as adopted by the Commission in its resolution 51/4. The incumbent would also be responsible for organizing the Asian and Pacific ministerial conferences on social development, which meet every five years, and for conducting surveys of the regional social situation in Asia and the Pacific. The Commission has accorded high priority to this area. At present there is no senior-level post assigned to this function. The growth of $90,400 represents the combined effect of the single redeployment and the single abolition of one post and the application of new standardized vacancy rates.

Consultants and experts

17.59 The estimated provision of $60,600 includes: (a) $47,200 for specialized consultancy services not available in the secretariat for preparation of the following studies and other materials mandated under specific resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission: report on progress achieved in human resources development through regional cooperation; reports on issues related to the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region; study on regional networking among centres of excellence for human resources development; study on youth participation indicators; guidelines for the implementation of a regional plan of action for older persons; and (b) $13,400 for one ad hoc expert group meeting on the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region, as indicated in paragraph 17.57 (a) (iii) above.

Travel

17.60 A provision of $80,300 is proposed for travel of staff: (a) to attend meetings of the relevant bodies of the United Nations and other organizations, the Commission on Social Development, the World Conference of Ministers for Youth and the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System related to social development and human resources development, including matters pertaining to youth development; and (b) to provide advisory services and consult Governments, intergovernmental organizations, national centres of excellence and non-governmental organizations on the implementation of the Agenda for Action

on Social Development in the ESCAP Region; implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP region; regional collaboration among national centres of excellence for human resources development research and training; regional cooperation in human resources development; enhancement of youth skills and promotion of youth participation in development; and design of national youth policy frameworks. The growth of $42,500 is due to increased regional activities on youth and human resources development in the biennium.

Contractual services

17.61 A provision of $23,700 is requested for external printing of four publications. The growth of $13,000 reflects actual requirements.

Subprogramme 6
Poverty alleviation: rural and urban development

Table 17.19 Summary by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	2 159.1	2 734.6	177.7	6.4	2 912.3	239.0	3 151.3
Other staff costs	—	—	18.1	—	18.1	1.5	19.6
Consultants and experts	65.2	50.0	(17.6)	(35.2)	32.4	2.4	34.8
Travel	39.8	51.2	(1.3)	(2.5)	49.9	4.2	54.1
Contractual services	2.1	17.0	11.1	65.2	28.1	2.3	30.4
Total	**2 266.2**	**2 852.8**	**188.0**	**6.5**	**3 040.8**	**249.4**	**3 290.2**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
—	120.0	UNDP	—
5 108.0	4 914.0	Bilateral and other resources	3 037.4
5 108.0	**5 034.0**	**Total**	**3 037.4**
7 374.2	**7 886.8**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**6 327.6**

Table 17.20 Post requirements

Programme: Poverty alleviation: rural and urban development

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
P-5	3	3	—	—	1	1	4	4
P-4/3	8	7	—	—	2	2	10	9
P-2/1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total	**13**	**11**	**—**	**—**	**3**	**3**	**16**	**14**
Other categories								
Local level	6	6	—	—	4	4	10	10
Total	**6**	**6**	**—**	**—**	**4**	**4**	**10**	**10**
Grand total	**19**	**17**	**—**	**—**	**7**	**7**	**26**	**24**

17.62 The work under the subprogramme will be carried out by the Rural and Urban Development Division under the guidance of the Committee on Socio-Economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas.

17.63 The focus of the work under this subprogramme will be to assess regional issues, strengthen the capabilities of grass-roots institutions in rural and urban development and promote policies and programmes on increased gender equality. Analyses of national and regional poverty situation will aim to improve conditions of the target groups through farm and off-farm employment creation and access of poor to land, credit and other productive assets. Activities will emphasize increasing the capacity of governmental and non-governmental organizations to develop innovative ways of rural and urban poverty alleviation, and support food security at the rural household levels. They will promote proper use of agro-chemicals to achieve sustainable agricultural development as well as augment food supply. Assistance will be provided to promote policies and programmes to enable women to play an active role as both agents and beneficiaries of development. Activities will also be pursued as a follow-up to the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women in Asia and the Pacific and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action; and the Regional Action Plan on Urbanization and the Habitat Agenda.

Activities

17.64 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings. Twelve plenary and 4 committee sessions of the Commission; 12 plenary meetings of the Committee on Socio-Economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas; and 10 plenary meetings of the Ministerial Conference on Urbanization in Asia and the Pacific;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation

a. Commission. Six reports on issues related to rural and urban development and on the implementation of Commission resolution 52/3 on follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women;

b. Committee on Socio-Economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas. Three reports on issues related to rural and urban development and on the implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Urbanization and the Habitat Agenda;

c. Ministerial Conference on Urbanization in Asia and the Pacific. Five reports on issues related to urbanization;

(iii) Ad hoc expert group meetings. One ad hoc expert group meeting on the review of the implementation of the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women in Asia and the Pacific and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

(b) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*

(i) Recurrent publications. Eight issues of the *Newsletter on Poverty Alleviation Initiatives*; 12 issues of *Agro-Chemicals News in Brief*; 24 issues of *Fertilizer Trade Information Monthly Bulletin*; 4 issues of *WINAP Newsletter*; and a compendium of inter-agency work programmes on rural poverty alleviation, 1998-1999;

(ii) Non-recurrent publications. Capability-building to alleviate rural poverty under economic adjustments; strengthening of credit institution for rural poverty alleviation; three country profiles on plant nutrient sector development; emerging urban issues; revised Regional Action Plan on Urbanization; innovative approaches to urban governance; and four monograph series on emerging issues on women in development in Asia and the Pacific;

(iii) Electronic, audio and video issuances. ESCAP homepages on the World Wide Web and on women in development and on human settlements;

(iv) Information kits. Promotional material for the Ministerial Conference on Urbanization; four information kits on the Beijing Platform for Action;

(v) Technical material for outside users (databases, software, etc.). FADI bibliographic database and DRCT database, sources of plant nutrient-related information with special reference to Asia and the Pacific; numeral database on food and fertilizer sector; and maintenance and updating of databases on human settlements projects, human settlements experts in the region and non-governmental organizations on women in the ESCAP region;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison (RB/XB)*

(i) Cooperation and collaboration, as relevant, with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, including the Habitat Foundation and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, the Administrative Committee on Coordination Subcommittee on Rural Development, as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including ASEAN, SAARC, SPC, the Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements (CITYNET), International Union of Local Authorities (IULA)/Asia and Pacific Council (ASPAC), Network of Training, Research and Information Institutes in Human Settlement (TRISHNET), Asian Coalition for Housing Rights, the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific, on issues falling under the subprogramme such as the implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Urbanization and of the Habitat Agenda; the implementation of the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action for the Advancement of women in Asia and the Pacific and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action; the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women; and rural development;

(ii) Technical and substantive support to the Regional Coordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tubers in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific;

(iii) Organization and servicing of the International Fertilizer Industry Association (IFA)/ESCAP/FAO/UNIDO Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP) regional conference on plant nutrients for Asia and the Pacific; of the Regional Inter-agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific Subcommittees on Urbanization and on the Advancement of Women;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services. Advisory missions as follows: 6 information management advisory missions on agro-chemicals; 12 on policy issues on use of plant nutrient and increasing food production; 4 on fertilizer marketing and pricing policy; 8 on the implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Urbanization and the Habitat Agenda; and 7 on the implementation of the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women in Asia and the Pacific and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

(ii) Group training (seminars, workshops and symposia)

a. Six national/regional workshops on target group-oriented policies and programmes for rural poverty alleviation, including programmes on rural women and disadvantaged economies;

b. Thirty-two participatory group activities and employment promotion through market-oriented projects;

c. Workshops as follows: one on integrated pest management in rural poverty alleviation; one on economic aspects of non-chemical crop protection; seven on policy analysis on food security, rural credit and rural institutions; four on environmentally friendly plant nutrition concepts; three on fertilizer marketing training; two on plant nutrition surveys; one on emerging urban issues; and one on innovative approaches to urban governance;

d. Seminars as follows: two on fertilizer policy issues; two on poverty alleviation for women; two on women's rights, violence against women and trafficking; and one on enhancing women's participation in decision-making and governance;

e. One regional urban forum;

f. Two training workshops on enhancement of women's information network through modern information technology.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

17.65 Resource requirements of $2,912,300 would provide for 11 Professional and higher level posts and 6 Local level posts as shown in table 17.20 above. These staffing requirements reflect the redeployment inwards of one Local level post from the subprogramme Executive direction and management and the proposed abolition effective 1 January 1999 of two Professional posts (one D-1 and one P-3) and one Local level post. The resource requirements represent the combined effect of the abolition and redeployment of these posts, the delayed impact of one P-5 post established in the biennium 1996-1997, and the application of new standardized vacancy rates.

Other staff costs

17.66 A provision of $18,100 is requested for flexible provision of some clerical support functions.

Consultants and experts

17.67 An estimated provision of $32,400 reflecting a reduction of $17,600 is requested as follows: (a) $20,000 to cover specialized consultancy services not available in the secretariat for preparation of reports on issues related to rural and urban development and background papers on the review of implementation of the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women in Asia and the Pacific and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action; (b) $12,400 for the one ad hoc expert group meeting shown in paragraph 17.64 (a) (iii) above.

Travel

17.68 An estimated provision of $49,900 is proposed for travel of staff: (a) to attend meetings of the relevant bodies of the United Nations and other organizations related to agriculture and rural development, women-in-development and human settlements, including representation at the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP), the Habitat Commission, the Commission on the Status of Women, and the Administrative Committee on Coordination Inter-agency Meeting on Women and Gender Equality; (b) to provide advisory services and consult governments, local officials and experts on rural development; implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Urbanization and the Habitat Agenda; emerging urban issues; innovative approaches to urban governance; and implementation of the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women in Asia and the Pacific and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

Contractual services

17.69 A provision of $28,100 is requested for the external printing of six publications.

Subprogramme 7
Poverty alleviation: population and development

Table 17.21 Summary by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	1 385.9	1 565.7	4.9	0.3	1 570.6	128.0	1 698.6
Other staff costs	—	—	18.1	—	18.1	1.5	19.6
Consultants and experts	24.4	25.1	0.9	3.5	26.0	1.9	27.9
Travel	44.9	34.5	(5.5)	(15.9)	29.0	2.1	31.1
Contractual services	14.8	16.2	0.1	0.6	16.3	1.2	17.5
Total	**1 470.0**	**1 641.5**	**18.5**	**1.1**	**1 660.0**	**134.7**	**1 794.7**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
2 288.2	1 868.2	UNFPA	2 000.0
188.4	179.6	Bilateral and other resources	75.1
2 476.6	**2 047.8**	**Total**	**2 075.1**
3 946.6	**3 689.3**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**3 869.8**

Table 17.22 Post requirements

Programme: Poverty alleviation: population and development

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-4/3	3	2	—	—	2	—	5	2
P-2/1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total	**6**	**5**	**—**	**—**	**2**	**—**	**8**	**5**
Other categories								
Local level	6	5	—	—	7	1	13	6
Total	**6**	**5**	**—**	**—**	**7**	**1**	**13**	**6**
Grand total	**12**	**10**	**—**	**—**	**9**	**1**	**21**	**11**

17.70 The work under the subprogramme will be carried out by the Population Division under the guidance of the Committee on Socio-Economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas.

17.71 The activities under the subprogramme will focus on technical cooperation and research in the areas of ageing, female migration and reproductive health. The activities also include preparation of publications including the *Asia-Pacific Population Journal* and the *ESCAP Population Data Sheet*, advisory services and training in the field of population information. Priority will be given to activities in regional implementation of both global and regional mandates, namely the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the recommendations of the Bali Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development.

Activities

17.72 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings. Twelve plenary and 4 committee sessions of the Commission; and 12 plenary meetings of the Committee on Socio-Economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation

a. Commission. Two reports of the Committee on Socio-Economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas; and two reports on issues related to population and development;

b. Committee on Socio-Economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas. Reports on issues related to population and development;

(iii) Ad hoc expert group meetings. Two ad hoc expert group meetings on appropriate technology for accessing population information and on globalization and population change;

(b) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*

(i) Recurrent publications. *Asia-Pacific Population Journal* (quarterly);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications. Six issues of family support and community services for the benefit of older persons; strengthening monitoring and evaluation for reproductive health and family planning programme; female migration, employment, family formation and poverty; and globalization and population change;

(iii) Electronic, audio and video issuances. ESCAP population homepage on the World Wide Web;

(iv) Booklets, pamphlets, fact sheets. Two population data sheets;

(v) Technical material for outside users (databases, software, etc.). Twelve Population Information Network (POPIN) data bank products and services within the framework of the ESCAP Bibliographic Information System (EBIS POPFILE) and the ESCAP Statistical Information System (ESIS) database management system; and 8 POPIN telecommunications products and services;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison (RB/XB)*. Collaboration with relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations on matters related to population and development; and organization and servicing of the Regional Inter-Agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific Subcommittees on Population and Development and on Poverty Alleviation;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services. Four advisory missions each on the implementation of the Bali Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development; on reproductive health and family planning; and on population information development;

(ii) Group training (seminars, workshops and symposia). Regional conference on family; regional seminar on monitoring and evaluation systems for reproductive health and family planning; policy seminar on female migration, employment, family formation and poverty; POPIN workshop on technology information management; two population information technology workshops; POPIN consultative workshop; and population information repackaging workshop.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

17.73 The resource requirements of $1,570,600 would provide for five Professional and higher level posts and five Local level posts as shown in table 17.22 above. Those requirements reflect the proposed abolition effective 1 January 1999 of one P-4 post and one Local level post not required for undertaking the programme of work. The growth of $4,900 represents the combined effect of the abolition of the posts and the application of new standardized vacancy rates.

Other staff costs

17.74 A provision of $18,100 is requested for the flexible provision of some clerical support functions.

Consultants and experts

17.75 An estimated provision of $26,000 is proposed as follows: (a) $9,700 for specialized consultancy services not available in the secretariat for preparation of background papers on appropriate technology for accessing population information and on globalization and population change; and (b) $16,300 for two ad hoc expert group meetings on appropriate technology for accessing population information and on globalization and population change as indicated in paragraph 17.72 (a) (iii) above.

Travel

17.76 A decreased provision of $29,000 is proposed for: (a) travel of staff to attend the sessions of the Commission on Population and Development; and (b) travel of staff to provide advisory services on the implementation of the Bali Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development; reproductive health and family planning; and population information development.

Contractual services

17.77 A provision of $16,300 is requested for printing the *Asia-Pacific Population Journal* and the *ESCAP Population Data Sheet*.

Subprogramme 8
Transport and communications

Table 17.23 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	3 510.6	4 024.3	(20.3)	(.5)	4 004.0	326.8	4 330.8
Other staff costs	—	—	18.1	—	18.1	1.5	19.6
Consultants and experts	18.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Travel	47.5	43.0	2.6	6.0	45.6	3.6	49.2
Contractual services	4.9	2.6	0.3	11.5	2.9	0.3	3.2
Total	**3 581.9**	**4 069.9**	**0.7**	**—**	**4 070.6**	**332.2**	**4 402.8**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
691.9	480.0	UNDP	1 200.0
2 001.1	2 240.2	Bilateral and other resources	3 467.4
2 693.0	**2 720.2**	**Total**	**4 667.4**
6 274.9	**6 790.1**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**9 070.2**

Table 17.24 **Post requirements**

Programme: Transport and communications

Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above							
D-1 1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5 2	2	—	—	3	3	5	5
P-4/3 12	10	—	—	4	4	16	14
P-2/1 3	3	—	—	—	—	3	3
Total 18	**16**	**—**	**—**	**7**	**7**	**25**	**23**
Other categories							
Local level 11	10	—	—	4	4	15	14
Total 11	**10**	**—**	**—**	**4**	**4**	**15**	**14**
Grand total 29	**26**	**—**	**—**	**11**	**11**	**40**	**37**

17.78 The work under this subprogramme will be carried out by the Transport, Communications and Tourism Division under the guidance of the Committee on Transport, Communications, Tourism and Infrastructure Development.

17.79 The focus of the work under this subprogramme will be to implement activities under the regional action programme of the New Delhi Action Plan on Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific, prioritized and endorsed by the Ministerial Conference on Infrastructure held at New Delhi in October 1996. These activities are aimed at improving the planning process in developing infrastructure facilities and services at all levels, as well as the efficiency of its administration, management and operation in the countries of the region. Efforts will be made to enhance private sector involvement in national infrastructure development through financing, management, operations and risk-sharing, with a view to accelerating the provision of infrastructure required to sustain the economic and social growth processes. Development of interregional and intra-regional transport linkages to enhance international trade and tourism will be undertaken through the implementation of the Asian Land Transport Infrastructure Development (ALTID) project. To facilitate integrated land-cum-sea transport, activities on freight forwarding and multimodal transport will be undertaken through close cooperation with other international organizations. With a view to increasing safety and safe working practices in transport and communication

operations and to reducing the adverse environmental impact of provision of infrastructure facilities and services to acceptable levels, assistance will be provided to member countries in promoting the safe transport of passengers and goods, particularly hazardous goods, while maintaining a clean environment, and implementing environmental impact assessments in relation to infrastructure development and operation. Assistance will also be provided to developing countries in promoting more equitable spatial distribution of economic activities and easier access to social amenities with the aim to alleviate poverty in the region. Activities will also be aimed at improving policies for planning tourism development, strengthening national capabilities in the development of human resources in the tourism sector and, in particular, tourism marketing; minimizing the environmental impact of tourism; and promoting tourism investment and facilitation of travel.

Activities

17.80 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings. Twelve plenary and 4 committee sessions of the Commission; 12 plenary meetings of the Committee on Transport, Communications, Tourism and Infrastructure Development;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation

a. Commission. Annual report of the Committee on Transport, Communications, Tourism and Infrastructure Development; and reports on implementation of Commission resolution 52/9 on Intra-Asia and Asia-Europe land bridges and the New Delhi Action Plan on Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific;

b. Committee on Transport, Communications, Tourism and Infrastructure Development. Two reports on implementation of the New Delhi Action Plan on Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific; and eight reports on issues related to transport, communications, tourism and infrastructure development;

(b) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*

(i) Recurrent publications. Annual issues of the *Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific* and of the *ESCAP Tourism Review*; and four issues of the *ESCAP Tourism Newsletter* and of the *Infrastructure Newsletter for Asia and the Pacific*;

(ii) Non-recurrent publications. Road network in North-East Asia; subregional Asian Highway route map; development of the Trans-Asian Railway; development of Asia-Europe rail container transport through block trains; review of regional/subregional agreements on land transport routes; road safety action plan; environmentally friendly energy for transport; methodologies for minimizing the environmental costs of damage caused by road transport; guidelines on comprehensive and integrated approach to policy development in the field of infrastructure, traffic and transport for sustainable environment, mobility and access; integrated approach to urban transport planning; inter-island shipping: issues and strategies; framework for the development of shipping policies; policy issues for expansion of sustainable tourism development; promotion of tourism along the Asian Highway; guidelines on integrated tourism planning; infrastructure pricing; role of inland waterways within an integrated transport system; training-of-trainers manual on participatory planning of rural infrastructure; marketing the railway product in the Asia-Pacific region;

(iii) Electronic, audio and video issuances. ESCAP homepages on the World Wide Web on the New Delhi Action Plan on Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific; the Asia Infrastructure Development Alliance; and Maritime Transport Information;

(iv) Technical material for outside users (databases, software, etc.). ESCAP database on infrastructure in the Asian and Pacific region; and refining and updating of software for planning infrastructure facilities and services;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison (RB/XB)*

(i) Cooperation and collaboration with the United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, including other regional commissions, UNCTAD, ICAO, ILO, IMO, ITU, UPU, and intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, including ADB, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), ASEAN, ECO, EU, FORSEC, MRC, Organization of Railways Cooperation (OSShD) and SAARC, the Global Infrastructure Fund, International Railway Congress Association (IRCA), International Road Transport Union (IRU) and the World Development Council in implementing the New Delhi Action Plan on Infrastructure Development for Asia and the Pacific;

(ii) Collaboration with the World Tourism Organization, the Tourism Council of the South Pacific (TCSP), the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), the Mekong River Commission (MRC) and other tourism-related organizations on tourism development activities;

(iii) Organization and servicing of the Regional Inter-Agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee on Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services. Advisory missions as follows: one on prospects for shipping and port development; two on implementation of comprehensive and integrated approach to policy development in the field of infrastructure, traffic and transport for sustainable environment, mobility and access; one on participatory planning of rural infrastructure; two on promotion of private sector participation in infrastructure development; two on multimodal transport, freight forwarding and facilitation of maritime traffic; one on transportation of dangerous goods; two on financial economic planning of infrastructure and project investment; and two on strengthening national capabilities in tourism development;

(ii) Group training (seminars, workshops and symposia)

a. Seminars/workshops as follows: two on transport infrastructure development and facilitation; one on networking of centres of excellence in infrastructure; and one on tourism planning and development;

b. Two country-level workshops on road maintenance;

c. Two training workshops on implementation of comprehensive and integrated approach to policy development in the field of infrastructure, traffic and transport for sustainable environment, mobility and access;

d. Regional seminars on infrastructure pricing and on facilitation of travel;

e. Symposium on private sector involvement in infrastructure development;

f. Subregional seminar on participatory planning of rural infrastructure;

g. Training workshop on integration of non-motorized transport in the urban transport system;

h. Training seminar on transportation of dangerous goods;

i. Workshop on financial economic planning and evaluation of inland waterways transport projects;

j. Two meetings on promotion of tourism in the Greater Mekong subregion;

k. Regional meeting on promotion of cooperation among tourism training institutes and organizations.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

17.81 The estimated resource requirements of $4,004,000 would provide for 16 Professional and higher level posts and 10 Local level posts as shown in table 17.24 above. These requirements reflect the proposed abolition of two P-3 posts and one Local level post (one P-3 post and the Local level post are proposed for abolition effective 1 January 1999) not required to fulfil the programme of work. The reduction of $20,300 represents the combined effect of the abolition of these posts and the application of new standardized vacancy rates.

Other staff costs

17.82 A provision of $18,100 is requested for flexible provision of some clerical support functions.

Travel

17.83 An estimated provision of $45,600 would be required for travel of staff: (a) to attend meetings of the relevant bodies of the United Nations and other organizations related to the transport, communications and tourism, including representation at the General Assembly of the World Tourism Organization, and meetings of the APEC Transportation Working Group and the Asia Infrastructure Development Alliance; and (b) to consult national Governments, intergovernmental organizations and the relevant bodies of the United Nations on the implementation of Commission resolution 52/9 on Intra-Asia and Asia-Europe land bridge, the implementation of the New Delhi Action Plan on Infrastructure Development and the development of a database on infrastructure in the Asian and Pacific region.

Contractual services

17.84 A provision of $2,900 is requested for the printing of the annual *Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*.

Subprogramme 9
Statistics

Table 17.25 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	2 332.7	2 339.4	136.7	5.8	2 476.1	202.2	2 678.3
Consultants and experts	17.7	29.4	(4.1)	(13.9)	25.3	2.1	27.4
Travel	34.3	49.7	(5.0)	(10.0)	44.7	3.5	48.2
Contractual services	47.8	43.5	0.9	2.0	44.4	3.3	47.7
Total	**2 432.5**	**2 462.0**	**128.5**	**5.2**	**2 590.5**	**211.1**	**2 801.6**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
390.5	—	UNDP	—
—	—	UNFPA	400.0
440.8	229.0	UNIFEM	534.0
2 338.3	2 061.8	Bilateral and other resources	1 330.0
3 169.6	**2 290.8**	**Total**	**2 264.0**
5 602.1	**4 752.8**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**5 065.6**

Table 17.26 **Post requirements**

Programme: Statistics

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-4/3	4	4	—	—	—	—	4	4
P-2/1	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
Total	**8**	**8**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**8**	**8**
Other categories								
Local level	15	13	—	—	2	2	17	15
Total	**15**	**13**	**—**	**—**	**2**	**2**	**17**	**15**
Grand total	**23**	**21**	**—**	**—**	**2**	**2**	**25**	**23**

17.85 The work under the subprogramme will be carried out by the Statistics Division under the guidance of the Committee on Statistics.

17.86 The focus of work will be to organize group training and provide advisory services in priority areas, including national accounts statistics and other economic statistics, gender statistics, population censuses and surveys, environment statistics and accounting and management of statistical services. Those activities will be implemented in coordination with relevant global, regional and subregional statistical entities.

17.87 The growing competencies of the member States in contributing to statistical capability-building will be taken into account in the modalities of regular and extrabudgetary activities. Regional-level coordination will be undertaken in the development, revision, testing and implementation of selected international statistical standards and, where necessary, their adaptation to meet the conditions and needs of the countries of the region.

17.88 Comparable socio-economic statistics will be disseminated through modern recurrent publications and off-line and on-line electronic media. The use of electronic technology will be increased in the acquisition of data with the aim of improving timeliness and accuracy of published statistics and of reducing the response burden of reporting statistical offices. ESIS will be improved in line with industry standards and as an integral part of the overall information system of ESCAP. Senior-level public decision makers will be trained in effective management of information technology, including strategic policy formulation.

Activities

17.89 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings. Twelve plenary and 4 committee sessions of the Commission: and 6 plenary meetings of the Committee on Statistics;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation

a. Commission. Report on issues related to statistics and report of the Committee on Statistics;

b. Committee on Statistics. Report of the Working Group of Statistical Experts; and reports on selected issues related to statistical development, issues in computerization in the public

sector, an integrated presentation of work programmes on statistics in the region and activities of the secretariat since the tenth session of the Committee;

(iii) Expert group meetings. One Working Group Meeting of Statistical Experts;

(b) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*

(i) Recurrent publications. Eight issues of the *Statistical Newsletter*; four issues of the *Government Computerization Newsletter*; *Annual Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific*; *Annual Foreign Trade Statistics for Asia and the Pacific*; eight issues of *Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific*; *Annual Asia-Pacific in Figures*; and three issues of the newsletter on information technology applications in population statistics;

(ii) Non-recurrent publications. Three methodological guidelines on statistics;

(iii) Electronic, audio and video issuances. ESCAP homepage on statistics on the World Wide Web;

(iv) Exhibits. Exhibit for the Committee on Statistics;

(v) Two wall charts on general/thematic statistics;

(vi) Technical material for outside users (databases, software, etc.). Data disseminated on electronic media (CD-ROM, diskettes etc.); operation and maintenance of ESIS; responses to ad hoc requests from outside users for statistical information;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison (RB/XB)*

(i) Cooperation and collaboration, as relevant, with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, including the United Nations Statistical Commission and the Working Group Meeting of Statistical Experts, regional conferences of statisticians and FAO Asia and Pacific Commission on Agricultural Statistics; the Administrative Committee on Coordination Subcommittee on Statistical Activities; intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system, including the East-West Centre and SPC, and non-governmental organizations, including the International Statistical Institute;

(ii) Technical and substantive support to UNFPA Country Support Teams in the region and to the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services. Advisory missions as follows: five on statistics on gender issues and other aspects of socio-economic statistics and indicators and two on statistical organization and management, and application of information technology, including in the public sector;

(ii) Group training (seminars, workshops and symposia). Regional/subregional workshops as follows: two on population and social statistics, including the follow-up to global social conferences; four on economic statistics, including national accounts; three on environmental statistics and accounting; and two on statistical organization and management, and application of information technology, including in the public sector.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

17.90 The estimated resource requirements of $2,476,100 would provide for 8 Professional and higher level posts and 13 Local level posts as shown in table 17.26 above. These requirements reflect the proposed onward redeployment of one Local level post from the subprogramme to subprogramme 10, Least developed, landlocked and island developing countries, and the abolition of one Local level post. The growth of $136,700 represents the combined effect of the abolition and redeployment of these posts and the application of new standardized vacancy rates.

Consultants and experts

17.91 An estimated provision of $25,300 is requested as follows: (a) $16,500 for specialized consultancy services not available in the secretariat for preparation of the following publications and technical materials:

Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific; *Foreign Trade Statistics for Asia and the Pacific*; *Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific*; *Asia-Pacific in Figures*; for operation and maintenance of ESIS; and for responses to ad hoc requests from outside users for statistical information; and (b) $8,800 for the Working Group Meeting of Statistical Experts shown in paragraph 17.89 (a) (iii) above.

Travel

17.92 A reduced provision of $44,700 is proposed for travel of staff to attend meetings of the relevant bodies of the United Nations and other organizations related to statistics. These include representation at the United Nations Statistical Commission and the Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Coordination.

Contractual services

17.93 An estimated provision of $44,400 is requested for the external printing of five publications and wall charts.

Subprogramme 10
Least developed, landlocked and island developing countries

Table 17.27 Summary by object of expenditure
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	615.0	1 119.8	352.2	31.4	1 472.0	120.1	1 592.1
Other staff costs	19.9	—	18.1	—	18.1	1.5	19.6
Consultants and experts	16.8	16.8	(2.1)	(12.5)	14.7	1.1	15.8
Travel	49.8	50.5	16.1	31.8	66.6	4.9	71.5
Total	**701.5**	**1 187.1**	**384.3**	**32.3**	**1 571.4**	**127.6**	**1 699.0**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
241.1	402.0	Bilateral and other resources	763.9
241.1	**402.0**		**763.9**
942.6	**1 589.1**		**2 462.9**

Table 17.28 **Post requirements**

Programme: Least developed, landlocked and island developing countries

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-4/3	3	3	—	—	1	1	4	4
P-2/1	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	2
Total	**6**	**7**	**—**	**—**	**1**	**1**	**7**	**8**
Other categories								
Local level	1	1	—	—	1	1	2	2
Total	**1**	**1**	**—**	**—**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**2**
Grand total	**7**	**8**	**—**	**—**	**2**	**2**	**9**	**10**

17.94 The work under this subprogramme will be carried out by the Least Developed Countries Section of the Development Research and Policy Analysis Division and the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre under the guidance of the Special Body on Least Developed and Landlocked Developing Countries and the Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries.

17.95 The focus of work will be to highlight trends and emerging problems and draw policy makers' attention to priority concerns and to improve the capacities of least developed, landlocked and island developing countries to integrate more closely into the dynamic regional development as well as into the international economy. Particular attention will be given to support their efforts at economic reform and more efficient resource mobilization and use, as well as to secure greater participation in the growing intraregional flows of investment. Priority will be given to activities in regional implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s and in the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. Human resources development, especially developing the skills of public officials in the areas of macroeconomic policy formulation will be emphasized.

Activities

17.96 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings. Twelve plenary and 4 committee sessions of the Commission; 2 informal meetings of the Commission on least developed countries, Pacific island developing countries and economies in transition; 4 plenary meetings of the Special Body on Least Developed and Landlocked Developing Countries; and 4 plenary meetings of the Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation

a. Commission. Reports of the Special Body on Least Developed and Landlocked Developing Countries and of the Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries;

b. Commission on Sustainable Development. Report on follow-up to the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

c. Special Body on Least Developed and Landlocked Developing Countries. Two reports on issues related to least developed and landlocked developing countries;

d. Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries. Two reports on issues related to Pacific island developing countries;

(b) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*. Non-recurrent publications. Review of implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s; enhancing cooperation in trade and investment between Pacific island countries and economies of East and South-East Asia; and options for exchange-rate policy in least developed countries;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison (RB/XB)*. Collaboration with UNCTAD on follow-up to the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s; with the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis and South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) on follow-up to the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States; with the Forum Secretariat and SPC on matters related to Pacific island developing countries;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services. Two advisory missions on macroeconomic policy and related institution-building in least developed countries and four on promotion of sustainable development in small island developing States;

(ii) Group training (seminars, workshops and symposia)

a. Workshops on enhancing cooperation in trade and investment between Pacific island countries and economies of East and South-East Asia and on options for exchange-rate policy in least developed countries;

b. Seminar on the review of implementation of the Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries for the 1990s.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

17.97 The estimated requirements of $1,472,000 would provide for seven Professional and higher level posts and one Local level post as shown in table 17.28 above. These requirements reflect: (a) the redeployment to this subprogramme of one P-2 post from subprogramme 2, Regional economic cooperation: research and policy analysis, to strengthen the capacity of this subprogramme to undertake research work, including follow-up to the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and of one Local level post from subprogramme 9, Statistics, to strengthen the administrative support service of ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre at Port Vila, Vanuatu; and (b) the abolition of one Local level post in Bangkok effective 1 January 1999.

Other staff costs

17.98 A provision of $18,100 is requested for flexible provision of some clerical support functions.

Consultants and experts

17.99 An estimated provision of $14,700 would be required to cover specialized consultancy services not available in the secretariat for the preparation of: (a) two reports on the specific themes to be selected by the Special Body on Least Developed and Landlocked Developing Countries at its third and fourth sessions (1997 and 1998, respectively) for presentation to its fourth and fifth sessions, respectively; and (b) working papers for the review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s.

Travel

17.100 An increased provision of $66,600 would be required for travel of staff: (a) to attend meetings of the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board, the Commission on Sustainable Development, and other relevant intergovernmental bodies such as SPREP, and (b) to consult Governments and intergovernmental

organizations on implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s; macroeconomic reforms and sustainable development issues for the Pacific island developing countries; and promotion of sustainable development in small island developing States.

D. Programme support

Table 17.29 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	23 059.0	27 637.0	(714.5)	(2.5)	26 922.5	2 205.8	29 128.3
Other staff costs	449.6	541.0	301.5	55.7	842.5	64.9	907.4
Travel	119.2	97.4	(28.9)	(29.6)	68.5	5.2	73.7
Contractual services	105.0	227.9	9.5	4.1	237.4	18.1	255.5
General operating expenses	4 425.6	4 646.7	48.3	1.0	4 695.0	361.4	5 056.4
Hospitality	—	14.4	—	—	14.4	1.0	15.4
Supplies and materials	642.9	722.8	75.7	10.4	798.5	61.6	860.1
Furniture and equipment	1 095.2	1 510.8	(287.1)	(19.0)	1 223.7	95.7	1 319.4
Total	**29 896.5**	**35 398.0**	**(595.5)**	**(1.6)**	**34 802.5**	**2 813.7**	**37 616.2**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
2 185.3	1 850.3	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	1 716.0
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
33.7	—	UNDP	—
—	—	Bilateral and other resources	—
2 219.0	**1 850.3**		**1 716.0**
32 115.5	**37 248.3**		**39 332.2**

Table 17.30 **Post requirements**

Programme: Programme support

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
D-1	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
P-5	7	7	—	—	1	1	8	8
P-4/3	43	39	—	—	2	2	45	41
P-2/1	10	9	—	—	—	—	10	9
Total	**62**	**57**	**—**	**—**	**3**	**3**	**65**	**60**
Other categories								
Local level	229	207	—	—	15	15	244	222
Field Service	3	1	—	—	—	—	3	1
Total	**232**	**208**	**—**	**—**	**15**	**15**	**247**	**223**
Grand total	**294**	**265**	**—**	**—**	**18**	**18**	**312**	**283**

17.101 Programme support comprises programme management, information services, conference services and administration and common services.

Activities

17.102 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Programme management*. The Programme Management Division provides substantive and secretariat services to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies as well as to meetings of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission. It coordinates the planning, programming and implementation of the work programme of the Commission, including its programme of technical cooperation activities in accordance with the mandates of the Commission and the United Nations global bodies. In addition, the Division assists and advises the Executive Secretary in establishing coherent policy and strategic guidelines on programme planning and the operational activities of ESCAP, as well as on the mobilization, management and use of regular and extrabudgetary resources, based on assessments of emerging regional and subregional needs;

(i) *Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (RB/XB)*

a. Substantive servicing of meetings. Substantive servicing of the Commission sessions and organization and servicing of the monthly sessions of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission;

b. Parliamentary documentation. Reports on implementation of the programme of work of the Commission for 1998-1999; proposed biennial programme of work, 2000-2001; proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001; proposed medium-term plan beyond 2001; implementation of the programme of work for 1996-1997; annual report on technical cooperation activities of ESCAP and extrabudgetary contributions; annual report on the implementation of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries; and biennial report to the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries in New York;

(ii) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison (RB/XB)*

a. Identification of the possible areas of cooperation and coordination between the ESCAP work programme and those of other organizations of the United Nations system, including organization and servicing of the Regional Inter-Agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific, and appropriate external regional institutions;

b. Coordination of the preparation of ESCAP inputs to global intergovernmental and inter-secretariat bodies of the United Nations and its system;

c. Liaison with UNDP, UNFPA, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant organizations to coordinate and harmonize the regional operational programmes of ESCAP with those at the country levels;

(iii) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*. Two workshops on national focal points for technical cooperation among developing countries and management of the Supplementary Fund for technical cooperation among developing countries;

(iv) *Administrative support services (RB/XB)*. Activities include overall coordination of programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation services to the Commission and other meetings, collaboration with other entities and organizations of the United Nations system and appropriate outside institutions, mobilization of extrabudgetary resources and management of technical cooperation activities;

(b) *Information services*. Activities include full coverage of the work of the Commission and its secretariat. They include preparing press releases, summaries of proceedings and debates, special brochures, booklets, wall charts, information kits, films, videotapes, briefings and exhibitions and library services;

(c) *Conference services*. Activities include the provision of conference services to meetings of the policy-making organs and other intergovernmental meetings held under the auspices of ESCAP, and translation and printing of documents and publications;

(d) *Administration and common services*. These services relate to human resources management, financial administration and resource planning, and use of common services to support the implementation of the work programme. Activities include (a) recruitment, placement, career development, staff training, staff administration, staff counselling and medical services; (b) financial management, control and treasury services; (c) general services, including buildings management, security and safety, communications, procurement, transportation; and (d) electronic data-processing services.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

17.103 The estimated resource requirement of $26,922,500 would provide for 57 Professional and higher level posts and 1 Field Service and 207 Local level posts as shown in table 17.30 above. These requirements reflect the abolition of 4 P-3, 1 P-2, 2 Field Service and 22 Local level posts (1 P-3, 1 P-2 and 7 Local level posts are proposed to be abolished effective 1 January 1999) no longer required as a result of improved working methods for the provision of support services. The reduction of $714,500 represents the combined effect of the abolition of these posts and the application of new standardized vacancy rates.

Other staff costs

17.104 The estimated requirements of $842,500 would provide for the following: (a) $283,100 for general temporary assistance during periods of peak workload and to cover the replacement of staff on extended sick leave and maternity leave; (b) $248,500 for overtime in periods of peak workload and night differential; and (c) $310,900 for contractual security, a part-time human resources/staff counsellor in response to recommendations of the Office of Human Resources Management and the Staff-Management Coordination Committee and other clerical services.

Travel

17.105 The reduced requirements of $68,500 relate to (a) travel for consultations at Headquarters, with ESCAP institutes and ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre at Port Vila, Vanuatu, on programme coordination and administrative, financial and personnel matters; and (b) travel of Conference Services staff to attend the annual sessions of the Inter-agency Meeting on Language Arrangements, Documentation and Publications and the Joint Inter-Agency Meeting on Computer-assisted Translation and Terminology.

Contractual services

17.106 The estimated requirements of $237,400 relate to language training; other specialized training such as Security and Safety; external printing of publications exempt from the Publications Board such as *A Profile of ESCAP*, quarterly United Nations Asia-Pacific news, United Nations Focus, booklets, brochures and leaflets; public information production costs, such as professional assistance for photographic production, audio-visual film production preparation and mounting of exhibition materials; annual contract for software support and maintenance services covering operating system and systems software; upgrading of existing system administration, application development and user-oriented software tools; contractual design and development of software for ready access of ESCAP data and information through CD-ROM; and contractual revision and augmenting of modules comprising ESIS to add new features and rectify deficiencies.

General operating expenses

17.107 The proposed resources of $4,695,000, which reflect a reduction of $48,300, is comprised of the following requirements: (a) $1,389,500 for rental and maintenance of premises, reduced by $51,400; (b) $1,810,300 for utilities (electricity, water, fuel and oil), reduced by $17,900; (c) $205,200 for rental of photocopying equipment and vehicles, increased by $76,800; (d) $59,400 for rental and maintenance of data-processing equipment, increased by $22,400; (e) $743,400 for communications (postage, cables, telephone, telex and pouch) at maintenance level; (f) $315,000 for maintenance of furniture and equipment, including *inter alia* ESCAP's share of the maintenance and support of the local area network (LAN) technical infrastructure (including central servers) necessary for the support of central management servers such as 3-main, UNIX for IMIS, etc., increased by $205,300; and (g) $172,200 for miscellaneous services including freight, general insurance, bank charges and other services, reduced by $184,300.

Hospitality

17.108 The estimated amount of $14,400, at the maintenance level, would provide for official functions in the context of the sessions and/or meetings of intergovernmental bodies as well as for the celebration of United Nations Day.

Supplies and materials

17.109 An estimated amount of $798,500 is requested for office supplies and materials, internal reproduction supplies, library books and supplies and public information supplies.

Furniture and equipment

17.110 An estimated provision of $1,223,700, reflecting a decrease of $287,100, is requested as follows: (a) $42,500 for replacement of office furniture and equipment; (b) $840,700 for acquisition and replacement of automation equipment and related software; (c) $155,600 for replacement of printing equipment and of conference-servicing equipment; (d) $58,800 for transportation equipment; (e) $54,200 for communications equipment; and (f) $71,900 for other equipment, including building maintenance, security and safety, and miscellaneous equipment such as drinking water cooler units, lockers for buildings maintenance staff, etc.